

# THE REHEARSAL.

1. The *Observer's* Attempt to set my *Creditors* upon me for *Ante-Deluvian Debts*
2. His putting me in the *News-Papers* now for *Treason*, as formerly for the *Memorial*.
3. He Complains of the Approbation the *Rehearsal* meets with.
4. His foolish *Story* of Tearing the *Addresses* of the *Lords*, and spreading the *Rehearsals* in their *Stead*.
5. What *Pains* he says he has taken to Ruin the *Rehearsal* and its *Author*.
6. He *Arraigns* the *Queen* and the *Ministry*, and says, they put *Jacobites* into all *Offices* throughout *England*.
7. My *Charm* will not Fit him.
8. He encourages the *Pretender* to make a *Second Invasion*.

SATURDAY, February 19. 1708.

(1.) *Country-man.*

**T**HE *Observer* and *Review* having try'd all Methods to do

you a Mischief, and Solicited Publickly and Privately to Render you Obnoxious to the Government, and putting it in the *News-Papers* that ther were *Warrants* of *High Treason* out against you; have taken another manner to Distress you. The *Observer* of the 2d *Instant*, Vol. 8. N. 1. (he begins well) says, That your Party furnish you with Money to pay your Debts, when you are Arrested, to prevent your falling into the Hands of the Law.

*Rehearsal*. If he can make that good in any one Instance, I'll allow him to be an *Honest Man*! And tho' he may Suppose my Party (as he calls them) wou'd not tell, yet sure those who were so little my Friends as to Arrest me, wou'd not Scruple to let it be known how and from whom they Receiv'd their Money. And they have my free leave to tell. Ther is not a Man in *England* (I declare it) whom I wou'd ask to be Bail for me in an Action of Debt, or from whom I expect it, far less to pay Old Debts for me. For before the Flood, when things were better with me, I fell into that Good Natur'd Folly of being Bound, and yet all Circumstances consider'd, I might be partly Excus'd, but I will trouble no body with my private Affairs. Those Concern'd know my Case as well as I can tell them, That the Deluge swept away what might have Pay'd them. And they have Patience with me, Knowing that my Life may Pay them, but hastning my Death cannot, I have Convers'd freely with some of them, without any fear of Trouble from them, and had their Friendship never the less, for they knew

me. And the Malice of the *Observer* herein is so Apparent, that I apprehend not any ill Consequence from it of what he Intends.

(2.) And for his *News-Papers*, it is not the first time I have tasted of his Kindness that way. About 3 or 4 Years ago he put it in the *Flying-Post* that I was taken up as Author of the *Memorial* of the Church of *England*, and had given a Thousand pound Bail, &c. Of which I took Notice in my first Vol. N: 102. so that this was Repeating a Jest, which among Wits is Dull. Such things as these have given that Paper the Name of the *Lying-Post* all all over the Town.

(3.) *Country-m.* He makes you a Great Man, Master. He tells how you are Attended and Caress'd by Clubs of the Faction, as he calls them. And who are these? He says, Those that Eat the *Queen's Bread*, bind up Sets of your *Rehearsals*, and Disperse them, and carry it on by Subscription.

*Rehearsal*. This is good News to the Publisher. Whom he told but Lately, that the *Rehearsals* did not pay Paper and Print. He shou'd make his Story all of a Piece. But why shou'd not they who Eat the *Queen's Bread* encourage a Paper which wou'd Save her from the Coercion of *Observers* and *Reviews* and all the Mob of the Nation? For if those Principles took place, they wou'd not much longer have Bread to Eat.

(4.) *Country-m.* He says, They tear the *Addresses* of the *Lords* in Publick Houses, and Spread *Rehearsals* in their Stead.

*Rehearsal*

*Rehears.* He shou'd have said in *Private Houses*, for then he might bid us go *Hunt* and find them out! But in *Publick-Houses* sure it wou'd be *Known*. Else how came it to be *Known*? Therefore if he do's not Name the *Place*, and *Prove* this— He must e'en go for what he is!

(5.) *Country-m.* He says in the next Words to his *Country-man*.

"You and I can do no more than we have done, *Roger*, to Warn those Concern'd to Prevent such things, and of the Mischief done by that *Paper*, but hitherto without Effect.

*Rehears.* None of your Fault, Mr. *Observer*, or of your *Roger*. For it must be own'd, you have taken true Pains, since you cou'd no longer Answer that *Paper*, to have it Suppress'd, and the Author to Suffer the Pains of *High-Treason*, for Teazing your Heart out, as he has done. For you know, you are the Original of Government, from whom *Queen* and *Parliament* Derive their Title, and so the Highest *Treason* is against your *Worship* and your Brethren of the *Mobb*! Our *Sovereign Lord* the People!

(6.) *Country-m.* And he Behaves himself Accordingly, with an Air of Authority (I assure you) above the *Queen* and her *Ministry*, and calls them to a severe Account. He says in this same *Observer*, That there's scarce an Office in *England*, where there are not *Jacobites*, or *Worse Men* Employ'd.

*Rehears.* This is Appealing to our *Sovereign Lord* the People indeed, from the *Queen* and her *Ministry*! But he says *Worse Men* than *Jacobites*. Can any thing be *Worse* than a *Jacobite*?

*Country-m.* O, Yes, he Explains himself, he says he means those, who when they take the *Oaths*, bid the Devil go down with them. And I Doubt not (says he) he Enters into them with the *Oath*, as he did *Judas* with the *Sop*.

*Rehears.* This is a Terrible Account indeed! but he makes himself Judge of those who he says take the *Oaths* thus Unwillingly! And he will not Allow the *Queen* or her *Ministry* to Judge of this! By which he Arraigns them to the People, either of very Gross Ignorance, or of being Themselves in the Design, and either way not fit to Govern! If he cou'd have found such an Insinuation as this in all my *Papers*, his Solicitations against me wou'd have had more Success.

(7.) *Country-m.* Where is now the *Armor* of Proof he says you have got, to creep through the *Briers* as you do without a Scratch, when *Observers* and *Reviews* have been Prosecuted, Pillory'd, &c. Those good Friends of the Government! He certainly thinks you have a *Charm*.

*Rehears.* I have so, *Country-man*!

*Country-m.* Will you tell it me? *Master*. The *Observer* and *Review* wou'd give me a good Deal for it.

*Rehears.* It will not fit them, *Country-man*.

*Country-m.* Pray try, *Master*. They'll Squeez hard but they will make it fit them, for I fancy their Necks do Inch sometimes for all the Treasons they vent, and their Bold Arraigning of the Government.

*Rehears.* My *Charm* is but one Word, that is, *Innocence*. While you keep that about you, no *Harm* can Touch you.

*Country-m.* They'll Beat me (as they Threaten to do you) if I should tell them such a *Charm* as that, They wou'd think I Affroned them!

*Rehears.* I told you it wou'd not Fit them— They may see what I Trusted to as my Defence against all their Malice (which I foresaw when I first Enter'd the Lists with them) in the Motto I put to my first Volume, *Et me Qui Sidera fulcit*.— And He has not fail'd me.

(8.) *Country-m.* You're Safe there, *Master*. But the *Observer* and *Review* are both full of a Second Invasion. And they say your *Papers* do promote it.

*Rehears.* How! Because I preach Loyalty and the Laws of the Land! Did *Passive Obedience* ever yet bring about a Revolution! But if what the *Observer* says be true, that all *Posts* are fill'd with *Jacobites*, &c. I leave it to all men to judge whether he or I do most encourage the Pretender to make a Second Attempt? If the *Observer* should at last be hang'd for a *Jacobite*!

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